

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Attorney Docket No. 2006_0658A
Keiji ICHO et al. : **Confirmation No. 2808**
Serial No. 10/578,433 : Group Art Unit 2423
Filed May 5, 2006 : Examiner Carmine Malangone
PROGRAM RECOMMENDATION : **Mail Stop: ISSUE FEE**
APPARATUS, METHOD AND PROGRAM
USED IN THE PROGRAM
RECOMMENDATION APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the references listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and any additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO/SB/08 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for:

☒ each U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication;

☐ each reference previously cited in prior parent application
Serial No. _____.

1a. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, **or**

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

The USPTO is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17, and 1.492, which may be required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 23-0975.

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /C.M./

1b. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

(1) ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or

(2) ☐ the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

1c. ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified

a. ☒ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or

b. ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. ☐ Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08, reference is made to:

- a. ☐ a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
- b. ☐ a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
- c. ☐ the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page ,
- d. ☐ the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
- e. ☐ the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:

5. ☒ A European Office Action citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

6. ☐ Statement Under 37 CFR 1.704(d)

Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart application, and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Keiji ICHO et al.

/Mark D. Pratt/

By 2009.11.16 14:13:03 -05'00'

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November 16, 2009

| Sheet 1 of 1 | | INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT | | | | | | | |
|--|----|--|---------|---------------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|--|
| FORM PTO/SB/08 A&B (<i>modified</i>) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i> Date Submitted to PTO: November 16, 2009 | | | | ATTY DOCKET NO. 2006_0658A | | SERIAL NO. 10/578,433 | | | |
| | | | | APPLICANT Keiji ICHO et al. | | | | | |
| | | | | FILING DATE May 5, 2006 | | GROUP 2423 | | | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | | |
| *EXAMINER INITIAL | AA | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE | | |
| | AA | 2002/0022956 | 2/2002 | Ukrainczyk et al. | | | | | |
| | AB | 6,473,753 | 10/2002 | Katariya et al. | | | | | |
| | AC | | | | | | | | |
| | AD | | | | | | | | |
| | AE | | | | | | | | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | | |
| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES NO | | |
| | BA | | | | | | | | |
| | BB | | | | | | | | |
| | BC | | | | | | | | |
| | BD | | | | | | | | |
| | BE | | | | | | | | |
| OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (<i>Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.</i>) | | | | | | | | | |
| | CA | European Office Action issued October 7, 2009 in European Patent Application No. 04818495.6. | | | | | | | |
| | CB | | | | | | | | |
| | CC | | | | | | | | |
| | CD | | | | | | | | |
| EXAMINER | | | | DATE CONSIDERED | | | | | |
| /Carmine Malangone/ | | | | 11/18/2009 | | | | | |

**Examiner: Initials of the examiner who considered the references cited by the applicant in the application. If the examiner did not consider the references, the applicant must cite them in the application. If the examiner did not consider the references, the applicant must cite them in the application. If the examiner did not consider the references, the applicant must cite them in the application. If the examiner did not consider the references, the applicant must cite them in the application.*

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /C.M./

citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.